

2006 essay question

You may have heard your parents talking about their investments, or perhaps you have studied about investing and money management in school. But, if you wanted to begin an investment program, would you know how to get started? Who would you go to for help and advice?

Imagine you have just been given \$5,000 to invest as you see fit. Think about your options. Should you invest in one particular company's stock (i.e., Gap, Nike, MicroSoft), in mutual funds, bonds, CDs or some other type of investment opportunity? Or, would you prefer to turn your money over to an investment adviser? How important is it to you to personally handle your investments? Research and investigate your options. Decide which option to take and proceed as if you are actually going to invest this money. What process would you follow in your research / investigation? Where or to whom would you look for information?

Describe the process you followed and explain your choice. List resources you used (government or private agencies, books, magazine or newspaper articles, web sites and other sources of information) and the types of information you gathered. Explain what you learned from this experience.